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JOHN MCELROY, ROBERT W. SHOPPELL, BYRON ANDREWS.

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IT WILL not do for Congress and the public to reproach the veterans with the number of private pension bills. The G. A. R. does not want these. We want a proper execution of the laws at present on the statute books, in which all shall fare alike. Private pension bills are political favoritism, too often employed by Senators and Representatives in repairing their

IF THE Quartermaster-General supplies

the island in showy legations to every Government on earth. They are the most active agitators for complete independence.

KING EDWARD VII. is carrying out very have-that of getting up and conducting fill of these affairs, much to the delight the Queen went into persistent mourning

In joining with the municipal authorities in the invitation to President McKinley, that they had no authority to do so, and that if he comes he will be the guest only of the City of Memphis. They recognize

GEN. SICKLEYS APPEAL.

Owing to ill-health, Gen. D. E. Sickles was unable to be present with the G. A. R. National Pension Committee at the time of

"I am, as you know, very much interested in the passage of the Pension Court Bill. I believe that measure deserves the favorable consideration of Congress. Our never be presented, but if it comes, the report will come, and then the National the execution of the laws.

Encampment, which has taken good care the execution of the laws. "I am, as you know, very much intertice. The so-called Board of Review, in of our affairs in the past, can shape the the Pension Office, is made up of a detail course of this grand Order in the future. of clerks in the Interior Department, who are expected to revise and confirm or reverse the action of their superior officers, will stand together as we stood together which, from a judicial point of view, is an absurdity. A judicial body must be independent of the executive authority creating it. As for the legal attainments of the Pension Office Board of Review, they are what might be expected of a group of law-yers, who, perhaps, never tried a case out-side of a Justice's Court. Our veteran soldiers are entitled to their day in Court, if they demand it. No judicial tribunal today is open to them when they desire to review an adverse decision of the Pen-sion Office or of the Department of the Interior. When Congress created a Court of Claims, and opened it to hear every claim-ant in the land, the veteran soldier who had a pension claim was expressly denied a hearing in the Court of Claims. This unjust discrimination should cease. It is too late now to admit veterans to be heard foreign relations, especially as to her debts in the Court of Claims, because that Court and tariff arrangements. Also, that we is so overcrowded with cases that it cannot transact half of the business before it. "Nor can the Board of Review in the Pension Office dispose of the pending appeals, and only one official, an Assistant Secretary of the Interior Department, is designated to revise decisions of the Board of Review. If Congress will create a Court of competent jurisdiction, providing five or seven Justices, all the cases in arrears will soon be disposed of and principles and rules established for the government and guidance of the Pension Office, which will remove all substantial and reasonab grounds of complaint. An authority will be recognized, in such a Court, to which the Pension Office and the Interior Depart-ment will bow with deference and respect, and which will be recognized every

just. "I had occasion, during the past year, to hear the views, on this subject, of veterans residing in many parts of our country, and without an exception, all of them ex-pressed themselves in favor of the early establishment, by Congress, of a Pension that we should be so foolish as to allow Court of Appeals. I assure you, sir, that any danger of this vital point being conthe feeling among the veteraus on this subject is widespread and emphatic. Assuming, as I do, that Judges of such a Court, nominated by the President and confirmed by the Senate, would be men of learning, character and ability, I am persuaded that the passage of the bill, by Congress, will be received not only by the veterans of the civil war, but by all good citizens with universal satisfaction. If I might have had the honor to appear before your committee, and my strength and health permitted me to do so, I could amounted was the Mississippi River, and the plify the argument in support of this measure, but, as it is, I must content myself with an earnest solicitation for your end of Cuba. If this was the case in Jeffavorable action. Very sincerely yours, (Signed) "D. E. Sickles."

WORDS OF NO UNCERTAIN SOUND

Fresh front his interviews in Washing-Congressmen, Commander-in-Chief Ras- mies. sieur said to the Massachusetts Encampment last Monday:

"At Washington we have not had the success I had hoped for. A while ago everything looked bright as to the legislation that the G. A. R. asked for when we met at Chicago. Things do not look that way at Washington now. Whether this is because of insufficient work on our part or not. I will not say so far as I am peris because of insufficient work on our part or not-I will not say, so far as I am per-sonally concerned; but the comrades on the committee in charge of the matter have certainly worked like Trojans and done everything in their power. The trou-ble is with the members of Congress, and I have regretted that it is to a large de-gree with those who wear the bronze but-tons setting themselves up as better judges of what you need than you yourselves.

"If men meet you with evasion or with "If men meet you with evasion or with refusal to do that which is in their power, and which they could honorably do, then the time may come when the head of the organization will have to report, and I will say to you that I am not going to fail to report my own views in reference to this matter, even though they may re-flect upon the highest individual in this

This, which was received with the greatest enthusiasm and manifestations of approval by the Commander-in-Chief's veteran audience, leaves no room for anyone to misrepresent the Grand Army's unani-

nous position. Mr. Evans, who is at the bottom of se nuch of the Grand Army's troubles, and who was particularly active in balking the salute. success of recent legislation, though he used the Secretary of the Interior as a stalking horse, has persistently and falsely claimed the approval of the Grand Army. When the Cincinnati National Encampment passed very temperate resolutions of dissatisfaction with his administration, he caimly announced that these had been secured by the influence of "pension attorneys," who got them through unknown to the majority of the Delegates. When the Philadelphia Encampment passed still more emphatic resolutions Mr. Evans came back to Washington, had his desk crowned with flowers in honor of the regiments with thermometers they will his "victory in the National Encamphave to be made long at both ends to meet | ment," and faked up quite a lot of apthe "exigencies of the service." Last week provals by "delegations of prominent vet the officers and men at Fort Egbert, in erans," whose names when given had Alaska, reported themselves getting along never been heard of in the Order. At the very pleasantly with the thermometer at visit of the Commander-in-Chief and Na-

the great body of veterans in other respects. He showed no hesitation in trying to irreparably damage the standing can perpetually see and talk about the of those high in the esteem of all veterans successfully about the only policy he can for their many years of zeal and fidelity. For this reason, as well as many others, great, showy, public functions. So far he the Commander-in-Chief saw the necessity has been giving the London people their of a public utterance that could not be den a very artistic raking-down. possibly misunderstood. His predecessors of the shopkeepers, who complained that and the Committee have heretofore carefully restrained themselves to language after her husband's death, and led in as which would have been entirely sufficient after his muster-in Department Command-

> said, to the same demonstrations of approval:

"I may be mistaken, and I hope I am for no one loves to see the comrade who stands high and has the confidence of the of the City of Memphis. They recognize distinctly that the President's having served in the Union army makes him non true to us, and forgets his obligations, we grata.

Stands night and mas the conducted of the it when those of us who may remain are too weak to be heard."

In conclusion the Commander-in-Chief

its visit to Washington, but he sent the following strong and convincing letter to the Chairman of the Committee on Invalid Pensions:

"Fortunately for me, I shan only of called upon to report, and to make good my report, when we meet at Cleveland next September. If I make a truthful report, it will be for the National Encampment to determine what shall be done. There is still time before the 4th of March to reader unnecessary a report. "Fortunately for me, I shall only b in the sixties, and then no person in this country can successfully resist this or ganization.

This is so plain that it seems to require no further comment than the expression of the belief that Mr. Evans will not make i the occasion of crowning his desk with flowers in honor of another victory in the Grand Army of the Republic.

CONDITIONS ON CUBA.

Gov.-Gen. Wood, of Cuba, has been in structed to inform the Constitutional Cor vention that the United States expects that the Constitution will recognize the super visory rights of this country over Cuba's foreign relations, especially as to her debts shall have the right to naval stations a certain specified points, particularly Habana and Santiago, and to maintain sufficient troops in the island to preserve peace and maintain the security of person and property. This will probably stir up the radicals in a pretty lively way, but i is really a very moderate demand. Cub: is virtually a part of the coast line of the United States, and we must have in a political and military way a control of the island that we can make effective at any time. This will be very essential after the construction of the Nicaragua Canal, That will at once become a great highway be tween our Pacific ports and those in the veterans as competent, impartial and Gulf and on the Atlantic. The place to defend this highway is in Cuba, which lies the Territorial Council he always retires directly in the entrance to the Gulf of from it rich. Mexico, with only narrow straits between the island and Florida on the north and Yucatan on the south. It is inconceivable any danger of this vital point being controlled against us. This was a matter of great solicitude to our first Presidents, promptly averted by our seizure of the island. The moment that our settlements extended beyond the Allegany Mountains outlet was the Mississippi River, and the ontlet from the Mississippi was around the

importance following the construction the Nicaragua Canal. We certainly did on with the Secretary of the Interior the not free Cuba to allow her to be used Commissioner of Pensions, and certain against us by our rivals and possible ene

> FUNERAL OF COMRADE A. D. SHAW, Commander-in-Chief Rassieur, accompa nied by Comrade Harvey Austin Kasson Assistant Inspector-General, Department of Ohie, G. A. R., represented the Grand Army in the escort of the remains of Past Commander-in-Chief Shaw from Washing ton to New York. At New York the remains were met by Lafayette Post, and after appropriate ceremonies were trans ferred to the train for Watertown. Commander-in-Chief Rassieur was compelled to leave them and go on to Boston to fill his engagement with the Department of Massachusetts, G. A. R. Comrade Kasson went on to Watertown, and was there joined by Inspector-General H. S. Peck and Past Department Commander Jos. W. Kay and the Assistant Adjutant-General and the Assistant Quartermaster-General of the Department of New York. An imnense crowd gathered to participate in the obsequies and pay honor to the departed veteran and Congressman. It was so large that no church in the town could accommodate it, and the remains lay in state in the armory. A splendid floral tribute, a Commander-in-Chief's badge, lay on the coffin, At the grave addresses were made by Comrades Kasson and Kay, and the 39th N. Y. Separate Company fired a soldier's

INCREASE OF REBEL PENSIONS.

The advancing age and growing infirmities of the rebel soldiers are causing a general increase in the pension expenditures in all the States of the late so-called Confederacy.

Last November the people of Louisiana, by an overwhelming vote, adopted a Constitutional amendment making a large increase in the pension fund.

ments, to the pension fund.

Mississippi has this year doubled her pension expenditures and contemplates doing much more next year.

So it is going on in all the States.

only 129,000 deserters, all told, or less than four in every 100 enlistments. Yet there are many men in this country who can perpetually see and talk about the four men who deserted and know absolutely nothing about the 96 men who did their duty nobly and faithfully. Washington Gardiner, of Michigan, gave Mr. Slayden a very artistic raking-down.

In this country who can perpetually see and talk about the four men who deserted and know absolutely nothing about the 96 men who did their duty nobly and faithfully. Washington Gardiner, of Michigan, gave Mr. Slayden a very artistic raking-down.

In this country in this this country who has marce-bones, an' beg fer down on his marrer-bones, an' beg fer down for the fer data way from the intense heat.

Then he looked with dismays from the intense heat.

Then he looked with dis

SENATOR MARK HANNA'S rise in the Grand Army has been rapid. Immediately after her husband's death, and led in as little as possible to bring people to the city.

The General Executive Committee of the United Confederate Veterans' Encampment at Memphis, have adopted resolutions declaring that they made a mistake lightly for the commander in Chief does it with the universal approval of the commander in the United Confederate Veterans' Encampment at Memphis, have adopted resolutions declaring that they made a mistake in joining with the municipal authorities of in Chief.

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The General Executive Committee of the greatest men in this country of the commander in Chief does it with the universal approval of the comrades overywhere.

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An Italian physician thinks that he has discovered that garlic is a specific for consumption. Our grandmothers knew that onions were sovereign things for bad colds, and it is possible that garlie may have great curative value. Consumption certainly does not seem to rage among garlic-eaters, though everybody wishes that something would carry them off-about 100 miles.

It is necessary to have a court that will Ephraim. not only say precisely what the laws mean, but will continue in power, and see that that meaning is carried into practical operation in the adjudication of pensions We have had enough of Congress passing laws that are nullified, and which Congress will not see are enforced. Now we shall try to see if a court cannot compel

WE want to take pensions out of poliics, by the establishment of a Court of Pension Appeals, which will lay down and enforce sound legal principles for the adjudication of pensions, instead of the whims and vagaries of the man who happens to be Commissioner of Pensions, and who wants to carry out some "policy."

It would seem that for a year or two we might advantageously replace the missionaries sent to Hindostan by men expert with the rifle, and of Teddy Roosevelt's fondness for hunting large game. In 1899 eopards and tigers killed 2,996 people and 89,238 cattle in India.

JUDGE JESSE J. PHILLIPS, of the Supreme Court of Illinois, and one of the very ablest lawyers in the State, died at Hillsboro, Ill., Feb. 15. He went out in the 9th Ill., as Captain, and rose to be Lieutenant-Colonel and brevet Brigadier-General.

SNAKES killed 24,621 people in India last year. A good antidote for snakebites ought to bring a bigger fortune than Col. Mulberry Sellers dreamed of from his famous Asiatic eye-water.

No matter whether Evans goes or stays we should have the Court of Pension Appeals as a matter of principle, to assure the people that pensions are granted in accordance with law. THE Indians of the Territory are be

oming so civilized that no matter how

poor a man may be when he is elected to

WHY should not the veteran be entitled to the same judicial hearing for his pension claim that he enjoys as to the ownership of a dog, or some other trifling piece

of property?

THE constant succession of crop fallares and famines in Russia goes far to dispel the fear that she is to be a crushing competitor to our wheat-raisers,

DE WET seems to be a very fair reproduction of John Morgan and Forrest, without the British developing any competent Kautz or A. J. Smith to handle him

THE Department of the Potomac, G. R., has unanimously indorsed Comrade ferson's time, it becomes infinitely more in John McElroy for Senior Vice Command-McKinley's, with an enormous increase of er-in-Chief.



On the March to the Sea

Coyrighted, 1899, by the publishers of THE NATIONA

A Scrimmage With the Jawsy Reserves and Uncle Eph's and Aunt Minervy Ann's New

Relations to Society. "I couldn't resist the temptation, any nore'n you could, Si, of taking these fine osses away from the rebels," remarked Shorty, as they jogged along toward Peachstone Shoals, to meet the 200th Ind. l'eachstone Shoals, to meet the 200th Ind.

"As a matter of principle every fairly good hoss should be taken from the rebels on sight, but are we going to have such a circus getting rid of them after we reach camp as we did with the cattle? If there is any prospect o' that, I vote that we shoot 'em just before we reach camp, and save trouble."

"Never do it, in the world," answered Si, whose farmer instincts revolted from

Si, whose farmer instincts revolted from the barbarity of shooting a good horse. "I'm going to give this hoss o' the Elder's to Col. McGillicuddy. He's better and faster than the one he's riding. You can give that one you're on to Lieut. Col. give that one you're on to Lieut.-Col. Strode, and we'll distribute the others around. This looks like it's going to be a march when lots o' the officers 'll want to march when lots o' the officers il want to ride, and a few extry hosses will be wel-come. I'm a heap more puzzled about Uncle Ephraim and Aunt Minerva Ann. I see a peck o' trouble ahead over them." "Fret not thy gizzard over them," an-swered Shorty, philosophically. "Niggers can do a heap o' taking care o' themselves in this country, and we'll be where we

in this country, and we'll be where we can be lending a helping hand, now and "Say-Mas'r-big Mas'r Yank," called

out Uncle Ephraim.
"Uncle Ephraim," said Si, in a tone of Within a fortnight the Alabama House of Representatives, by a decisive vote of 73 to 16, passed a bill appropriating \$100,000, in addition to the present disbursements, to the pension fund.

"Uncle Ephraim, Said St, in A color of musta're a free man, and have no moster any more. Drop the word."

"No mas'r nowhar?" queried Uncle Ephraim, looking bewildered; "I t'ought top's t' be my new mas'r now.

"You's t' be my new mas'r now."
"No, no; there are no masters anywhere, any more. I'm nobody's master."
"You's nobody's mas'r," echoed Uncle
Ephraim, still more bewildered. "You's
nobody's mas'r? Why, I done t'ought,

"Yes, indeed you is," echoed Aunt Minerva Ann, in her regular amen intona-"Now, look here, Uncle Ephraim, Aunt

the matter clear to the negroes' compre-hension) as free—as—as—Tim Scads, Tite Brown, or Elder Hornblower."

"Lan's sake," ejaculated Aunt Minerva Ann, "we'uns don't want t' be lack dat pore white trash, in no shape ner manner. Dey'uns's wives an' chiliun's allers hongry fer bread an' meat, an' haint cloze t cover deir nakedness. An' if I t'onght dat Eph'd go bellerin' 'bout de country lack Elder Hornblower, an' lenbin' me t' hoe de grass outen de cotten, I'd take a water-elm club an' break his fool neck—so I m club an' break his fool neck—so I ould. You hear dat, Eph?" "Yes, 'Nervy," meekly answered Uncle

Well, I repeat that you're free, now

and mustn't call anybody master."
"But we don't want t' be free niggers "But we don't want t be free niggers dat's lower down dan de wuffess white trash," returned Aunt Minerva Ann. "A free nigger's like a stray dog; ebberybody gives him a kick, an' nobody a bone. We'uns want t' belong t' somebody. We'uns want t' belong t' you an' Fadder Abra-

"Well, you can't belong to neither of us There's no use of talking about it. That ends it. You mustn't call me master, but ends it. You mustn Serg't Klegg, of the Glegg, of the 200th Injianny Understand that?"

They did not understand it, but their ars were quick to catch sounds, and after i few trials Si got them so that they could pronounce "Serg't Klegg," and "Corporal Elliott," and "200th Injianny Volunteer Infantry.

"Dat's de name ob our new mas'rs," said Uncle Ephraim to the rest, in a tone of authority. "Now, I want you common niggers t' l'arn dat, hard an' fas', an' neb-'low me t' h'ar nutting else from ye

"But, Uncle Ephraim," Si began to pro est anew.
"It's no use, Si," interrupted Shorty

"they'll have to learn what freedom mean otherwise than by words o' mouth."

The discussion was interrupted by the sound of two or three shots a quarter of a mile ahead, then a couple of shots from some point nearer, apparently in reply; then a sputter of shots, as others came up and joined in. Si and Shorty galloped forward, to find that Pete Skidmore and Sandy Baker, riding ahead as an advance guard, had come upon a squad of men pre paring to burn a bridge over a narrow and deep creek. These had fired on them as oon as they came in sight, and their bu lets had come so unpleasantly near that Pete and Sandy had jumped from their saddles and behind trees before replying. Harry, Monty, Gid and Alf, who were strung along back; talking with the ne-groes, had come up, one by one, and jumping from their horses had fired at the quad of rebels. Abednego, the mule, was entering into the spirit of the occasion, by ecupying the center of the road, regard less of the bullets whistling back and for ward over him, and kicking, with light ing swiftness and great precision of aim at every horse that came within range of his long-reaching beels. These came peril ously near Si's head, as he leaned forward

ously near S/s head, as he leaned forward to reconnoiter the scene of action.

The sound of the guas started the emotional negroes behind into a tunult of loud shouting, singing and praying.

Had it not been that he thought there was more pressing use for it, Si would have given the recalcitrant mule the contents of his gun.

ents of his gun.

He sprang from his horse, and ran ur He sprang from his horse, and ran up on the high bank, where Monty, Harry, Gid and Alf had gathered and were reloading. Down the slope, a little to the left, were Pete and Sandy behind trees.

He could see the bridge, 300 or 400 yards away, upon which the rebels had been piling fat pine-knots and dry brush, when they had been surprised by Pete and Sandy's appearance. They all seemed more or less crippled, and one man, limping along on a crutch, toward the bridge, was carrying a lighted brand, obtained from a house near by, swinging it around.

right arm, while he charged the cartridge,

"The question before the house," remarked Shorty, casting his eyes around he horizon, "is how far off the aforesaid Capt. Stonebroose may be, how long it'll take that boy to reach him, and consequently how soon we may expect a call it is a consequently how soon right arm, while he charged the cartridge, drew rammer and rammed cartridge with his left hand. It was clear that he was making a brave effort to stand off his assailants until the man with the brand could reach the bridge.

Two other maimed men at the opposite end of the bridge had dropped their loads of stuff and were hobbling toward their guns, which leaned against trees.

There was something familiar about the one-armed man, and Si dropped the gun which he had raised to cover him, and shouted to the others:

"The question before the house," remarked Shorty, casting his eyes around the horizon, "is how far off the aforextid the horizon, "is how for of the aforextid the horizon, "is how for off the afo



"SHORTY FLUNG HIM DOWN AND RUSHED ONTO THE BRIDGE."

Alszka, reported themselves getting and Navery pleasantly with the thermometer at 68 degrees below zero. Last Sammer some of the men were baking eggs in the scompany streets at Fort Yuma, in Arizona. The Regular soldier would seen to have to be a man of great elasticity of temperament and able to enjoy any climate, from that of cold-storage to that of a lime-kilu.

Every Cuban who can read and write is ambitious of office. The Spanish example taught them that the only way to get rich or have social distinction was to hold office. A whole lot of them are intensely eager to be Foreign Ministers, especially to Spain, and if they could would bankrupt the island in showy legations to every Gorgensument on earth. They are the most accommender and the commander-in-Chief and National Pension Committee to Washington, in January, Mr. Evans has shown himself.

So it is going on in all the States. A member of the Legislature has only to make a passionate appeal for the Statin and the Longing and in all the States. A line of the Legislature has only to make a passionate appeal for the Statin should be a five did to "do its duty by the men who followed burning and in all the States. A line of the Legislature has only to "do its duty by the men who followed burning and in all the States. A line of the Legislature has only to "do its duty by the men who followed burning and in all the States. A line of the Legislature has only to "do its duty by the men who followed burning and in all the States. A line of the Legislature has only to "do its duty by the men who followed burning and in all the States. A line of the Legislature has only to "do its duty by the men who followed the theory or the best and Jackson," to get a great liberalization of the pension allowances.

Lee and Jackson are always names to do "do what you to de dem. An what dependence in the present and alkness, the press and informed the Committees that the Committ really intended to shoot he would have | done started t' tell you gemmen afore, the bridge, to kick the burning stuff into the water. It was no use. The bridge itself was old, and constructed of pine, afore sundown."

"Awful sorry, Sheriff, you was shot," said Si, as they laid him down. "We really didn't intend to, as soon as we recognized you. Hope it aint anything serious. Alf, look at his wound, and see what

zies. Yon can see it was a good line shot."

"All right," chuckled the Sheriff. "I aint gwine t' mind that thar scratch, long's we've saved the bridge from yo'uns. Soon's I got my orders t' burn all the bridges and block the road in front o' yo'uns army, I called out a posse, but in all my born days I never see sich a run o' chills an' fever, an' rheumatiz as thar was on this crick. Very queerly, all the men wuz down with them, an' they didn't tetch the women at all. The women wuz as lively as crickets, but the men all groanin', an' onable t' move hand or foot with-out yellin'. Only these three ole Confeds that'd bin plugged by Yankee bullets afore seemed t've escaped the fever-an'ager, an' rheumatiz, and willin' t' go erlong with me, an' try another whack at yo'uns. But

we'uns burned the bridge, an' 've got yo'uns. Yo'uns've done run inter a deadfall, an' we'uns'll have yo'uns back in An-dersonville by to'-morrer night.

The Sheriff chuckled again, as he looked at the burning bridge.

Si and Shorty shuddered at the mention of Andersonville, but they picked up the Sheriff and tenderly carried him up to the house, where, the flow of blood having been stanched, he was laid on the bed, and

Aunt Minerva Ann was called in to help make him comfortable, and prepare for him and his companion the food which the boys gave from their own haversacks.
Si and Shorty returned to the bridge, to nsider the situation and decide what

to do.
"Dumb the luck," said Si, looking at the steep, rugged banks, lined with rocky cliffs and the deep, swift current; "we could manage to get over, if we wuz afoot and alone, but we can never get those hosses and women and wagons over in the world. I misdoubt if many o' them ne-

groes can get acrost."
"Well, there's no use discussing anything but taking the niggers along," answered Shorty. "The hosses may go to blazes, for all I care, but we've got to look out for these people. I'll meander down here to the left, and you go up to the right, and see if there aint a chance to get acrost.'

"Pete, get on that blamed ghost yours," commanded Si," and ride up there to that spur, and see how it looks for a crossing. Be back here in five minutes." ossing. They all returned from their explora-tions, with discouraging reports. The banks were even worse farther up and

"We'll have to build a bridge, I'm afraid," said Si, looking at some tall trees standing near the bank, and studying the facilities for approach.
"Sandy, you and Harry go up to that house, and get all the axes you can find and bring 'em here."
Aunt Minerva Ann came bustling down

from the house, her broad face full of rage and anxiety.
"Say, Serg't Klegg, you orter come right
up inter de house an' kill dat ole lop-sided
Si criff Bardsley done daid, right off—not

leave him live a bressed minnit. Why didn't you shoot him daid when you had de

chanst?"
"Why, Aunt Minerva Ann, what's the matter?" asked Si.
"Why," spluttered the negress, "jcs 's soon's yer back wuz turned, arter doin' all you could fer him, he done called Miss Barnstable's little boy, an' done sent him off on deir best hoss on de gallop, to Cap'n of the second se tonebroose, who has de critter company, come hyah ter wunst wid his company, r he done had eight Yankees an' a lot o' fer he done had eight lankees an a lot of sich, hyah, all bagged, an' dat he could take dem in, but he uus' come on de jump. Tink ob dat arter all you've done fer him, an' sabin' his no-account life. I done hearn hit all froo de doo', as I wuz bilin' de coffee which I wish't would pizen him' k ob dat arter all you've done fer him, sabin' his no-account life. I done in hit all froo de doo', as I wux bilin' soffee, which I wish't would pizen him, because the boys, what the 200th Injianny's in the orient t' be allowed t' lib a min-I'll make Eph go up dar an' cut his tif you say so."

I like yo'uns, an' I advise yo'uns in a friendly way not t' put up a fout, fer hit 'll be useless. Cap'n Stonebroose"—

"Thank you, Sheriff," said Si, starting because to the boys, "but the 200th Injianny's in the habit o' deciding for itself about fighting or not. Grab a root, boys, and don't tire till you see something to shoot to the boys in the control of the contr e coffee, which I wish't would pizen him. come away jes' as soon's I could t' tell o'. He ortent t' be allowed t' lib a min-

was carrying a lighted brand, obtained from a house near by, swinging it around, as he hobbled along, to keep it alive, and burning freely. A one-armed man, standing out holdly in front of the bridge, was loading his gun with difficulty, holding it against his body with the stump of his mistreat him in any way."

Int. I'll make Eph go up dar an' cut his front in you see something to shoot at."

Not on your life, Aunty," said Si, earnestly, in spite of the disturbance of his mind by her message. "You must be just as kind to him as you have bin. Don't me till you see something to shoot at."

In a minute the woods on the opposite side of the creek was full of yelling horsemen.

"Hello," said Si, in amazement, "what in the world are they doing over there?

done so before running at him, and have a state of ten you genmen afore, done so before running at him, and hobbled frantically forward. Just as Shorty clutched his shoulder he threw the brand into the pine leaves and knots on the bridge. They flamed up like powder. Shorty flung him down and rushed onto rock dar. Peachstone Shouls is right ober took dar. Peachstone Shouls is right ober dar, not more'n two sees an' a good holler, an' by goin' dat-a-way we kin make hit "Sure of that, Uncle?" asked Sl, with lifting heart, but scanning the horizon

"Shore as yer bawn, chile—I mean, Mas'r—I mean Serg't Klegg," answered Uncle Ephraim, with another dab at his

can smell home, like a hoss, and cut across straight for it."

"Uncle Ephraim, take that road with your people as the Lord'll let you," said Si, impressively. "And don't you stop until you reach our pickets. Capt. Stonejug, or something like that with his cavalry comsomething like that, with his cavalry com-pany, is after us, and you."
"Cap'n Stonebroose," echoed the other

olier gemmen. Whar dat catridge-box?
Ole Stallins take hit wid him?"
"Good man, Eph," shouted Aunt Minerva Ann, "I'll git hit fer you." She ran back to the porch, picked, up the Sheriff's cartridge-box, and as she flung it to Eph on her way to the wagon

she admonished him: "Stan' up like a man, now. If you run a step afore de Serg't Klegg done tell you, I nebber lib wid you agin so long's you done got ha'r on yer haid." She climbed upon the wagon-seat, gath-

ered up the reins, and sat looking expect antly.
"Go on, Aunt Minerva Ann," said Si.

"Go on, Aunt sinerva Ann."
"What are you waiting for?"
"I wanted i' see you all kill dat Sheriff afore I started," she explained.
"Go on. Hurry off," said Si. "I'm not going to kill the Sheriff. Drive off, and "o fast." 'Denn you's gwine t' make Eph do hit

"Denn you's gwine t' make Eph do hit, same's liekin' dat pore white trash. Eph, don't git wobbly, now, an' miss. Hold yer gun tight."

"No, Eph's not going to do it. We're not going to kill the Sheriff, or hurt him at all, I tell you," said Si, impatiently. "Drive off at once, and get out of the way. The reads may be here at any minute." The rebels may be here at any minute. "Dem Yankees is suttinly cur'us," Aunt Minerva Ann communicated to another sa-ble matron, who had taken the seat beside e, to her. "Lick de hides offen some ob de what whites what wasn't doin' nuffin' t' dem, an' den pet au' coddle anudder what shot at dem, an' tried t' hab em all cotched ocky an' killed. Yankees 's lots cu'user'n our 'we lolks."

After seeing that the negroes had fairly started, and deploying the boys to watch for Capt. Stonebroose, Si and Shorty went up to bid gooy-by to the Sheriff. "Are you all comfortable, Sheriff? Anything more that we can do for you?

Thanks, gentlemen," he answered "yo'uns's very kind, but I require nothin more. I'm as comfortable as possible, an' expect some friends, who I think will inerest yo'uns, even if they don't make

said Shorty, not to be outdon

"Yes," said Shorty, not to be outdone by the Sheriff's geniality, "we understand that you sent for Capt. Stoneshoes, or something like that, to entertain us. We're on the look-out for him, and will try to keep the flies off him, when he comes."
"It was my duty t' send for him, sir, an' I done hit," said the Sheriff, stiffening up, "That's all right, Sheriff," said Shorty, cordially. "As we didn't put you on pa-role you had the right. A little thing like that shan't interfere with our friendship for you. How many men is your friend, Capt. Stone Jews, likely to have with

"That, sir," said the Sheriff, stiffly, "would be giving information t' the en-emy. I refuse t' tell you, sir. But I will say that he'll have enough to make hit hopeless fer yo'uns t' fout him—perfectly hopeless, sir." hopeless, sir."
"It's clear you're not acquainted with the 200th Injianny Volunteers. Sheriff," said Si, pleasantly. "Your friend, the Captain, will have some very different ideas about a sure thing, after he's monkeyed with us for a few minutes. But we're not here to talk o' that, but to say goodly, thank you again and leave you

good-by, thank you again, and leave you a little more coffee. We hope to see you after the war." A far-away shout came over the treetops.
"Thar's Cap'n Stonebroose now," said
the Sheriff, hobbling out on the porch and ending up a ringing shout in reply. lemen, I like yo'uns, an' I advise

which he had raised to cover him, and shouted to the others:

"Hold on, boys. Don't shoot that man. He's one-armed Sheriff, who stood by us last Summer."

He was not an instant too soon. All the reloaded muskets were coming down with deadly aim. He was not quite soon enough. Sandy and Pete heard him at the instant of firing and instinctively depressed in their aim from the man's breast, but one of their bullets caught him in the thigh, and he fell to the ground, firing his own e gun as he did so.

Shorty could not bring himself to fire do not eripple with the crutch, but dashed forward, hoping to intercept him before he reached the bridge. He yelled at him stop, but the man gave him a look of hatred and defiance, saw that if he had is shorted the take to whole woods, and make their standing of his master the rest o' ole Windsucker Joe Brown's test and to soon.

Scarg't Klegg." said Uncle Ephraim, coming up, pulling off his master in stant of firing and instinctively depressed.

The was not an instant too soon. All the reloaded muskets were coming down in when hit rains. I done tole you to sense me, Mas'r Scape me, Mas'r I mean Corpril Elliot but did I onderstand dat you gemmen wanted it go t' Peachstone Shoals?"

"That's where we were striking for Uncle," said Si, "before this bridge-burning stopped us, Now, I was just coming back there to tell you to scatter your selves through the woods, and """

"Scase me, Serg't Klegg." said Uncle Ephraim, again touch in when hit rains. I done tole you to sense the rest o' ole Windsucker Joe Brown's test and Uncle Ephraim, of the rest o' ole Windsucker Joe Brown's toon the ground, after the past on the ground, after the rest o' ole Windsucker Joe Brown's said uncle Ephraim, of the rest o' ole Windsucker Joe Brown's said Uncle Ephraim, and the rest o' ole Windsucker Joe Brown's said Uncle Ephraim, and the rest o' ole Windsucker Joe Brown's said Uncle Ephraim, of the rest o' ole Windsucker Joe Brown's said Uncle

over. We're anxious for a closet He raised his gun and shot down the The raised his gain and shot down the Captain's horse. The other boys fired, and there was a general jumping from horses on the other side and scrambling for cover. Uncle Ephraim, imitating every motion of those around him, had taken cover behind a log, and succeeded in bringing down a horse on the other side. taken cover benind a log, and succeeded in bringing down a horse on the other side. He jumped up and shouted: "Glory t' God!"
There was a lull as the boys reloaded, the Cartain science how the Cartain science has been been been a lull as the boys reloaded.

There was a full as the boys reloaded, the Captain picked himself up, found shelter behind a tree, and his men anxiously sought cover behind rocks and trees.

"Yo'uns's jes' bout as much good over thar," shouted the Sheriff, "as yo'uns'd be in Guiner, but that's as much good as

thar, shouted the Sherill, "as youns d be in Guiney, but that's as much good as yo'uns ever air, anywhar. You sneakin', cowardly, stay-at-home, sorghum-cuttin', yam-diggin' Reserves. Yo'uns think more yam-diggin' Reserves. Yo'uns think more o' yer sorghum an' yer yams than yo'uns do o' yer country, or bein' free men. I hope the Yanks'll conquer yo'uns, an' make you dig yams an' cut sorghum all yer lives, and drive ole Joe Brown into the fields with you. Go home t' him. D— yo'uns. Him an' the hull passel o' yo'uns aint wuth the salt that'll keep yo'uns from rottin'. Go home, I tell yo'uns,"

"I'm a-gwine t' report them words straight t' Gov. Brown," shouted the Cap-tain back. "He'll natcherally break yer stuck-up neck fer talkin' that a-way about

stuck-up neck fer talkin' that-a-way about yer betters. You can't lay the blame on we'uns. Hit's all yer own fault. We'uns 's hyah ready t' do our duty, an''
"Gentlemen," said Shorty, stepping out from behind his tree, "this serious disa-greement between friends is very painful to witness. We very much wish that we could smoothe this trouble over and being to witness. We very much wish that we could smoothe this trouble over, and bring you together, which we can't do without throwing the Sheriff acrost the crick. Much as we would like to, we haint time to stay with you any longer. We have a pressing engagement to simpor this even pressing engagement to supper this even

ing with Gen. Sherman, and must hurry off to keep it. Take that, Capt. Stone Blues, you old string-halted guerrilla, as my blessing and good-by."

He suddenly raised his gun from an "order" and fired at the Captain's head, which had been study of the captain's head, which had been stuck out from behind the tree to listen to the extraordinary exor-dium. The bullet knocked the bark off the tree, and filled the Captain's face with

plinters and dust.
"Good-by, gentlemen of the Reserves," said Si, motioning to the boys to start off, "Go back to your sorghum fields, and your yam-patches, keep out of the way of the Yankees, and pray God every day to make you loyal men. Good-by, Sheriff. Your ntentions were good, but for sense an Injianny ox can give a Georgian a hundred yards start, and beat him every time."

They mounted, and soon overtook Aunt Minerva Ann's caravan. "Did you kill anybody, Eph?" she asked "Nuffin' but a hoss," answered Uncle Chiraim, "Too fur away, 'Fraid I'd alss de man if I shot at him." Ephraim. "Why didn't you go up closeter?" she asked, disapprovingly.

(To be continued.)

PERSONAL.

A reception and dinner was given Jan. 17 at the Hotel St. Denis, New York, to Col. William Henry Boyle, U. S. A., on the occasion of his retirement on account of age. About 100 companions of the Loyal Legion and comrades of the G. A. R. were present, and the affair was presided over by Gen. O. O. Howard. The matter was under the auspices of the Asociation of the 5th N. Y. Artillery-Capt. Joseph H. Barker, President-in which regiment Col. Boyle went out as Second Lieutenant and came home a M. or. He entered the Regular Army as a Second Lieutenant, in 1866, and became Lieuten-ant-Colonel of the 19th U. S. in 1899.

There is never any telling where one of the old comrades will turn up, and what he will be engaged in. A catalogue of fine oil pictures and portraits, from Christiana, Norway, has for its frontispiece a fine half-tone picture of the dealer who issues the catalogue—no less a person than Lieut.-Col. Ole P. H. Balling, of the 145th N. Y. On his breast, between his decora-tions received from his King, he proudly wears his G. A. R. badge.

Kansas sent on to Washington, to bring her vote for McKinley and Roosevelt, Comrade A. W. Smith—better known as "Farmer Smith." of McPherson, Kans, Comrade Smith, who is a magnificent specimen of manhood, over six feet high, well proportioned, and in perfect health, was a member of the 19th U. S., and a Sergeant during the last years of his en-listment. He was captured, with a number of his comrades, at Chickamauga, and suf-fered 18 months' imprisonment at Andersonville and elsewhere. He went to Kan-sas in 1873, and has been quite successful as a farmer. He was rather forced into politics, but took to it afterward as nat-urally as a duck does to water, and is re-garded as one of the best vote-getters in the State. He was five terms in the Legislature, the last as Speaker, and was the Republican candidate for Governor when Kansas seemed hopelessly Populist. He cut down the majority over 50,000, and came within a few thousand votes of election. He will probably be the next Company of the Department of Kansas mander of the Department of Kansas, G. A. R., and there is talk of him as Commander-in-Chief. The great soldier State of Kansas has never had a Commander-in-Chief, and the comrades out there think that it is about time she had one.

that it is about time she had one.

Capt. Gideon Wheeler, Co. K. 32d Iowa, Fulierton, Neb., is in the city, visiting his son, a clerk in the War Department. Capt. Wheeler, who is still in fair health, was one of Gen. A. J. Smith's "guerrillas" during all their long, varied, and exciting service, up the Red River with Banks, on the Meridian Raid with Sherman, under Rosecrans clearing Price out of Missouri, under Thomas at Nashville, and under Canby at the capture of Mobile. Canby at the capture of Mobile